

helping steer them on the right path. We are supporting many school and community-based efforts, especially those that promote abstinence to reduce teen pregnancy.

Today I'm pleased to report that together we're making progress. I'm announcing the new release of a report by the Centers for Disease Control showing that last year the teen birth rate went down for the 4th year in a row. And even more encouraging, the out-of-wedlock birth rate declined for the first time in 20 years. This is occurring across all racial and cultural lines. If we're going to save the American family it is absolutely critical that we keep moving in this direction. There are still far too many children being born outside of marriage, but we are now finally seeing that it is possible for us to move in the right direction.

For far too long too many Americans believed there was nothing we could do about our most vexing social problems. They always seemed to be there, and they always seemed to be growing worse. But now it's different. Crime is down 4 years in a row, one million fewer victims. Poverty is down, the largest drop in 27 years. Nearly 2 million people have moved from welfare to work, and now this good news on teen birth rates and out-of-wedlock pregnancies.

When the teen birth rate drops for 4 years in a row and out-of-wedlock births decline for the first time in a generation, that is news we can all be proud of. Americans are standing up for our values. The American family is getting stronger, and we are making responsibility a way of life. Our economy and our society are on the right track. If we continue to pull together, to meet our challenges and protect our values, our best days are still ahead.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 10 a.m. on October 4 at the Chautauqua Institute in Chautauqua, NY, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on October 5.

## **Exchange With Reporters Following Debate Preparation With Former Senator George Mitchell in Chautauqua, New York**

*October 5, 1996*

**The President.** Hi.

**Q.** Good morning.

**The President.** "X" marks the spot? [Laughter]

### **Presidential Debate**

**Q.** Are you ready for some kind of a surprise from Mr. Dole? Everybody is talking about he may have a surprise.

**The President.** I expect he will.

**Q.** Do you?

**Q.** How high are the stakes here?

**Q.** Do you have one?

**The President.** No. No, I'm just—I did better yesterday. I had a—I was better in the golf in the beginning, and better in the debate at the end.

**Q.** Did you finally beat George Mitchell?

**The President.** Well, I don't know. Maybe I got him to a draw anyway. He's hard to beat.

**Q.** A lot of people think these things are not ever won on the substance but on people's memories of a defining moment. Are you looking for a defining moment?

**The President.** Not especially. I think the most important thing is—my belief is that people would like it if it were genuinely enlightening and if we were talking more to them in terms of answering the questions. And I'll do my best to try to make it helpful to the people who watch. And that's kind of what I'm focused on—making sure that when it's over they have a really clear idea of what I want to do, how it relates to what we have done in the last 4 years, how much better off the country is today than it was 4 years ago, and what we still have to do. That's the kind of thing I want to talk about. I want it to be essentially a positive thing. There will be, obviously, some clear contrast between Senator Dole and me, but my belief is that people want us to try to talk about building

the future, and that's what I'm going to try to do.

**Q.** Mr. President, does the memo from Mr. Freeh say that there's no—

**Q.** Mr. President, how high are the stakes for these debates? It's kind of stopped the campaign momentum for a moment; it's got you focused. How high are the stakes for you and for Senator Dole?

**The President.** Oh, I think it's a very important debate because if a lot of people watch it, you know, it could affect their views. But I think the main thing for both of us is to go be ourselves and do the best we can and let the people draw their own conclusions. And if you start calculating all the other things, I think you just—it throws you off. You've just got to show up and do your best.

**Press Secretary Mike McCurry.** Thank you, Mr. President.

**Q.** Sir, there's another—the FBI—

**Q.** Mr. Freeh's memo—does it say there's no clear leadership in the drug policy, sir?

**Q.** [*Inaudible*—the buildup leading up to it, though.

**The President.** Oh, well, it's inevitable, isn't it? I mean, you know, it's inevitable. It's a moment in which the American people have a chance to see us both, and that's a good thing.

#### **FBI Report on Narcotics and Law Enforcement**

**Q.** Sir, what can you tell us about this FBI file story?

**The President.** I don't know anything about it other than what I saw in the paper today. I know nothing—

**Q.** How about the Freeh memo? Does it really say that the administration has shown no leadership in the drug war?

**The President.** No, the Freeh memo, as I said, it was a memo by Mr.—Louie Freeh to me arguing that the country had never organized—the Federal Government had never been properly organized in terms of who had jurisdiction to do what in the drug war. And that's basically what it's about. And he argues for a reallocation of—he argued for a reallocation of authority, and I thought

argued quite persuasively that we needed a way to coordinate this.

The Vice President reviewed this as part of our reinventing Government review, particularly as it related to the drug czar. And one of the reasons I wanted a general who had worked on drug interdiction in as drug czar is to try to—to create a greater sense of coordination between what the domestic law enforcement agencies, the military, and all the people involved on the prevention and treatment side do together.

And this is a problem that's been noted for—the first evidence we had goes back to President Johnson. And we're doing—we're trying to get all the people involved in it now to work together more closely than ever before. And I think General McCaffrey is in a unique position to get that done because of his—what he was doing before he became the drug czar. He was the head of the Southern Command, which meant he had responsibility for working with all these countries' military to try to stop drugs from coming into our country in the first place.

But this has been—this issue has been debated literally going back to the Johnson administration. I've seen documents on it going back to then. And I believe what we're doing now will get us better results than we've had before. And I think that we have to try to do this in a way that recognizes that all these agencies have other legitimate and conflicting interests. So it's very difficult to have, for example, all the domestic and all the foreign issues related to drugs under one particular agency, but it is important to have them all coordinating and working together instead of at cross purposes, which is something people have complained about from the inside of this, literally going, I know, back to the Johnson administration. So we're trying to work it out, and we've tried to respond appropriately.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. in the Plaza at the Chautauqua Institution. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

## **Proclamation 6931—German-American Day, 1996**

*October 5, 1996*

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

Germans were among the first settlers of the United States. They, like other immigrants to our country, came to America seeking a better life for themselves and their families. In building this better life, they have immeasurably enriched the lives of their fellow Americans.

From the beginning of the colonial period and throughout the history of our republic, German Americans have contributed their intellect, wealth, and culture to building, defending, and improving American life. Organized settlement in America by Germans began as early as 1683, with the arrival of German Mennonites in Pennsylvania at the invitation of William Penn. Pennsylvania soon became the center and stronghold of German settlement throughout colonial times as small, vigorous communities spread to Maryland and the other colonies. Today, robust German-American communities can be found throughout the United States.

The strength of character and personal honor so important in the German cultural tradition have also found their way into the core values of American society. More U.S. citizens can claim German heritage than that of any other national group. And every successive generation of German Americans seems to produce new heroes and heroines who earn the admiration of a grateful world.

For example, Carl Schurz served as a Union General in the Civil War and later rose to become a distinguished American statesman, both as Senator from Missouri and as Secretary of the Interior. Johann Peter Zenger, the publisher of *New York Weekly Journal* in the early 18th century, was an early and vigorous champion of the free press in America. And German-born Albert Einstein made monumental and historic contributions to our understanding of the universe.

Our culture has also benefited abundantly from German-American women. Anna

Ottendorfer was a talented newspaper publisher and philanthropist. The four Klumpke sisters enriched American life with their contributions to art, medicine, music, and astronomy, while Lillian Blauvelt and Fannie Bloomfield Zeisler enhanced American music.

America has welcomed Germans in search of civic freedoms, and their idealism has reinforced what was best in their new country. German-American men and women have contributed immensely to the fabric of our Nation, and it is appropriate that we pause to honor their important role in building our country.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Sunday, October 6, 1996, as German-American Day. I encourage Americans everywhere to recognize and celebrate the contributions that millions of people of German ancestry have made to our Nation's liberty, democracy, and prosperity.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 9, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 10.

### **Remarks at a Rally in Hartford, Connecticut**

*October 6, 1996*

**The President.** Thank you. Thank you. Folks, let me begin by saying a special word of thanks to the people who played before I came here, the Steve and Mary Davis Band, and let's give a big hand again to the Lila Wallace Youth Jazz Orchestra. They did a great job.

I want to thank Congresswoman Barbara Kennelly for meeting Hillary and me at the airport and for being such a great leader for